

ALEXANDRIA DAILY GAZETTE.
COMMERCIAL & POLITICAL.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY
SAMUEL SNOWDEN,
ROYAL-STREET, ALEXANDRIA.

Daily Gazette, 6 Dollars.
Country Gazette, 5 Dollars.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24.

We are happy to be enabled to present to our readers a portion of the Memoirs of the War in the Southern Department, and to inform them that the work is in the press of BRADFORD & INSKEEP, of Philadelphia, whose reputation as editors, leaves no room to doubt but that it will soon appear in the most correct form.

MEMOIRS

Of the War in the Southern Department of the United States.
CHAPTER I.

The determination of the mind, to relinquish the soft scenes of tranquil life for the rough adventures of war, is generally attended with the conviction that the act is laudable; and with a wish, that its honorable exertions should be faithfully transmitted to posterity. These sentiments lead to the cultivation of virtue; and the effect of the one is magnified by the accomplishment of the other. In usefulness to society, the degree is inconceivable between the performer of great achievements, and the recorder of them; for short must be the remembrance, and circumscribed the influence, of patriotic exertions and heroic exploits, unless the patient historian retrieves them from oblivion, and holds them up conspicuously to future ages. "Sæpe audiui, Q. Maximus, P. Scipionem, præterea, civitatis nostræ præclaros viros, solitos ita dicere, cum majorum imagines intuerentur, vehementissime sibi animum ad virtutem accendi. Scilicet non ceram illam, neque figuram tantam vim in sese habere; sed memoria rerum gestarum eam flammam egregiis viris in prectore crescere, neque prius sedari, quam virtus eorum famam atque gloriam adæquaverit."—Sall. Bell. Jugur.

Regretting, as we all do, that not one of the chief actors in our camp or cabinet, and indeed very few of our fellow citizens, have attempted to unfold the rise, or to illustrate the progress and termination of our revolution, I have been led to this my undertaking with a hope of contributing, in some degree, to repair the effects of this much lamented indifference. With this view, I am about to write memoirs of the southern campaigns, being that part of the war with which I am best acquainted, & which in its progress & issue materially contributed to our final success, and to the enlargement of our military fame. Desirous of investing the reader with a full and clear understanding of the operations to be described, I shall commence these memoirs at the beginning of the third year of the war; as the principal events which occurred thereafter, laid the foundation of the change in the enemy's conduct, and turned the tide and fury of the conflict from the north to the south.

When I engaged in this undertaking, many of my military comrades, capable and willing to contribute their aid to the fulfilment of my design, were living; whose minute knowledge of various scenes, all of which they saw, in some of which they led, would have rendered it peculiarly interesting and valuable. After postponing, as is common to man, what for various reasons ought not to have been delayed, I have experienced in my progress abundant cause for self-reproach; since in many instances, I have been deprived of this important assistance, which no effort or application has been able fully to supply. Discouraged by this privation, I should, though reluctantly, have receded from my purpose, had not the injurious consequences of my dilatoriness been in some measure repaired by the animated & friendly exertions of the few survivors among my martial companions. To these individuals I owe a heavy debt of personal gratitude; and should the following sheets be deemed worthy of general approbation, to their ready and unwearied assistance, more than to the author's care and diligence, may be justly ascribed the pleasing result. I have, nevertheless, been compelled to abridge considerably my first design; not having been able to obtain the documents necessary to its full accomplishment.

It was my intention to present the public, not with a narrative of the southern operations only, but with the life of major general Greene, our distinguished leader. The two subjects appeared to be closely connected; and the latter is strongly claimed by my intimate

* "Often have I heard," says Sallust, "that Quintus Maximus, Publius Scipio, and other renowned men of our commonwealth, used to say that whenever they beheld the images of their ancestors, they felt their minds vehemently excited to virtue. It could not be the wax or the marble which possessed this power; but the recollection of their great actions kindled a generous flame in their breasts, not to be quenched, till they also by virtue had acquired equal fame and glory."

knowledge of the military plans and measures of that illustrious man, by the homage due to his superior virtue, and the grateful remembrance, which I hold (in common with all who served under him) of his benignity and justice.

Apprehending that longer delay might eventuate in leaving altogether unexecuted my design, I resolved for the present to confine myself to these memoirs, deferring to some future day, or to more adequate abilities, the completion of my original plan.
(To be continued.)

DEBATE IN SECRET SESSION,
CONTINUED.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
FRIDAY, April 3.

Mr. Bleecker, in a speech of about twenty minutes, made an able, solemn and impressive address to the house, urging them to ponder; and desist from the dangerous course they were pursuing, and forwarned them of the calamitous consequences that would inevitably result.

Mr. Mitchell, of New-York, said in viewing political subjects and dangers, some are inclined to look through political microscopes which diminish them; others, misled by their imaginations, look through political telescopes, and are as apt to magnify and enhance them.—He, for one, was for viewing our situation with his naked optics, for looking at it as it really is. He could not be considered as less alive to the interests and happiness of the inhabitants of that city, respecting whom so much sensibility has been expressed, than any other gentleman. There were his intimate friends, connexions, and what little property he possessed. No one could feel more for their sufferings under commercial restrictions, or in case of an assault upon it by the enemy. And if he was to consult only his personal sensibilities, they were all in favor of the people of that country, with whom we are to enter into a conflict. He has no prejudice against them. He there received his education. He has lived in North & South Britain. From actual residence he knows them from the Grampian Hills to Dover. He knows them, however, to be a proud, overbearing nation. From former residence, and also from recent intelligence, (and that within a few days by late arrivals,) he knows that they consider us a sort of generation whom they have a right to despise. We are viewed in this unworthy, degraded situation, not on account of our want of resources or population; but because they believe we can't stand together—that we have no confidence in ourselves—that we cannot lead armies into their countries. Their object has been, since the year 1806, to divide and distract us, and to prevent our taking efficient measures. Sir, what has been the cause of our present condition; it is well known, in 1806, he was made the organ of his constituents, as other gentlemen were for Salem and other commercial places, to present to congress their complaints and wailings, on account of the grievances they suffered upon the subject of carrying colonial produce & the continuity of the voyage. The archives of this house will prove this. They declared they should be ruined if the British doctrine should be countenanced. The government were goaded by these applications for relief. The government began, and continued with pacific measures, until we have got into our present situation.

Mr. M. said he would aver, there was never a time when there was more internal good, more real practical independence, more what the heart desires and can enjoy, in any civilized nation, than we now enjoy. A population of seven millions—the arts and manufactures flourishing in a high degree—are we then to be frightened—to listen to the notes of political screech-owls? We are the happiest nation on earth. He could, to be sure, with a melancholy countenance, go into any family, and give a lecture on the weakness of the flesh, on the calamities of human life, and a miserable exit. But how much better are we off than any other people? Our lot has fallen to us in a pleasant place, and we have a goodly heritage.

He said he recollected when he was a boy, that he and his companions would get round the fireside, of a winter's evening, and talk of ghosts, till they were all afraid to go to bed—and lucubrious anticipations of the danger of a war with England, he thought was of a piece with the childish apprehensions alluded to.

With regard to the nation with whom we are to contend, and whose prowess is so terrible in the opinion of some, he is proud to see gentlemen around him, who dared in 1774 to enter into the conflict, when we had a population of only three millions. He did not think any one would be afraid to face a nation whose head of issue such a character—one who was, some years since, expelled a Jockey Club, and who was lately turned out of doors for his unworthy conduct to his neighbor's wife. [A clapping of hands.] The power with which we are to contend, is not so terrific and almighty as is imagined.

Sir, we have intelligence by the last mails from the Capes of Virginia, that the vessels of that nation are capturing our's from the Chesapeake to France, within 2 leagues of our coast, laden with produce of our own soil, and not contraband of war.

Mr. M. said he was of opinion this measure ought to be accompanied with another—with letters of marque and reprisal. We ought to let the cannon accompany the flag. The

voice of the cannon ought to speak the voice of the nation, under the stripes of the nation. We ought to have no party feeling. He wished the country might be united—that all petty divisions about ins and outs may be put aside, and that an united front may be opposed.

He said he gave his assent to the measure, less under the correctness of his understanding, than from a respect to the authorities of the country. When it came recommended by the executive, he did not feel proud enough to differ.—He therefore yielded to what he thought the rational, proper wish of others. As a republican, he would comply with the opinion of the majority.

It is upon our divisions, and the imbecility of our councils, that our enemy build her hopes. He believes that gentlemen who have opposed our measures, have done it from honorable motives; but our measures are good enough if we are united. All we want is to form a phalanx. If united, the work is done, and we could then take a rank among the nations. But how are we as a nation? We can't even get a National Song, without depending on others. He hoped we might not verify the observation of that illustrious commentator, the "Federalist," that our danger is not from tyranny in the head, but from anarchy in the end. He knew that an embargo would be an unwelcome prescription; but is a disagreeable prescription for a violent disease to be rejected? Are we not told from high authority, that if they member offend, cut it off? He considered this as an efficient measure. He said we were living in a land flowing with milk and honey. It is better to keep our wheat and flour at home, than to let it go abroad and be taken. He may be asked, is he willing to withhold supplies from, and starve the people of that country? He would deliberately answer yes, when by rescinding their decrees they can so easily do us justice.

He desired the house to look at the condition of the island of Barbadoes—the situation of the planters, who are obliged to substitute beets for cane. In the most plaintive terms they represent their situation as desperate.—They have not a stove for a rum puncheon.—In consequence of the mortgages on their estates, and the danger of insurrection of their blacks, they are reduced almost to despair.

When you talk of the omnipotence of that nation, look at their impotence. We are as different from them as angels are from infernal spirits.

He knew that this measure is not desirable *per se*. Although inconvenient, it is not to be viewed only as to its hardships. As connected with another part of policy, it is very important. He said, in proportion to his worldly substance, no one *pro rata* will suffer more by it than himself. He resided with a patriotic set of men, who will join in opposing a noble front, and who are determined to avenge our wrongs.

Mr. Randolph said he had listened with attention to the observations of the gentleman from New-York, Mr. Mitchell.—The gentleman's reasons, if there is any weight in them, are in favor of letters of marque and reprisal, but not in favor of the ruinous measure now under consideration. When the gentleman, justifies himself, in shielding himself under authority, in his approbation of the measure, he should have supposed he ought to have been influenced by the authority of a respectable gentleman, (meaning the vice-president) first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen, within the state of New York, who is now insensible to the distresses of the country. The gentleman says, we ought to take our stand among the belligerents. We cannot take this stand. We are but a young people. We are just emerging from a revolution—a revolution, which was soon succeeded by an European war, which has been to us, like the drainings of a farm yard, which has enriched us beyond measure, which has raised our hamlets and villages to first rate cities. To this we owe our present greatness. To this we owe the language the gentleman has this evening used.—Sir, what has been the fate of those nations who have undertaken to take their stand among the belligerents? They have become, like humble gun boats, in the wake of European belligerents. What has become of Prussia? she is extinct. What of Austria? she is crippled. What of Russia? she with a territory and population far beyond ours, has been anxious to take the stand which the gentleman wishes, but she dare not. Sir, we may become to the war, under the name of allies: but we shall be the first servants of those whose cause we espouse. We may escape this conflict with honor. What is honor in a nation? Is it honor to cope with those who are so greatly our superiors? It is our duty and interest to wait. He very well knew, that in times of feverish anxiety and impotent restlessness, nothing is more irksome than to preach up patience, and that we ought to wait for events.

Mr. R. said he did not pay much regard to the argument that the belligerents calculate upon our divisions. It is an old, and if he might be permitted to say, a stale apology, calculated by ministers to unite a people.—The charge of the majority, which is so often made against the minority, is futile. Is it ridiculous for them to urge it. The president of the United States can indisputably carry his measures in congress, as much as any minister ever did. No minority is, or ever has been of any effect. All experience proves it. He would exhort both houses of congress to

follow the dictates of their own minds, and not adopt the sentiment of the gentleman from New York. There is no danger from an opposition. The president of the United States for fourteen years has been omnipotent. The evil has not been from the minority, but from gentlemen not pursuing the dictates of their own understandings.

Mr. R. then brought to the view of the house the diminutive trade of the country to France, and which has been diminished by her own regulations, in comparison with our trade to all the rest of the world. He said, if we are called upon to resist, he would wish to shew our resistance where it is important and necessary. As to the observation of his friend from North Carolina (Mr. Macon) that our only alternative now is war—that no proposition had been or could be made as a substitute; he said propositions had been made, and he would pledge his head one might now be made, if both belligerents were viewed with the same eye by our government. Where, asked Mr. R. is the reciprocity, while the armed vessels of one only are admitted? As to the existence of the French decrees, the burning of our property on the high seas is damning proof that they have not been revoked.

The gentleman from N.J. (Mr. Boyd) the other day proposed 120 days for the period of the embargo, which was negatived. If we agree now to the amendment of 90 days, it is confession that our argument the other day was wrong; and it confirms the opinion of the chairman of the committee of foreign relations (Mr. Porter) that it was inexpedient to lay an embargo for 60 days, until we were within 60 days of preparation for war, and who said he was in favor of an embargo as a preparatory measure.

He said there could be nothing more cruel to the merchant, who has given 10 dollars per barrel for flour, and who has incurred the expense of shipping, &c. to carry it to market. It will also be the ruin of the planter. He intreated the house to defer it, until the merchant, who has bought on credit of the planter, can turn himself. There is no alternative—the merchant must be ruined, and the planter greatly injured.

He wished that we might think of the mills at Brandywine and Petersburg. There is no calculating the benefit which would arise from deferring it a week, and no possible good can arise from hurrying it. If it is to ruin the allies upon the Peninsula, upon the argument of gentlemen it cannot answer, as no one can suppose they have not 90 days supply on hand.

Mr. Widgery spoke with much passion and warmth in favor of the embargo and war.

Mr. Stewart said, if it was in order, he would ask the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Widgery) a few questions. He would ask that gentleman if he was during the last embargo a ship owner?—If so, did he not go to England during the embargo? If so, how did he go?

Mr. Widgery answered that he went by water.

The Speaker observed these questions were not in order.

Mr. Stewart said if they were not in order he would sit down.

(To be continued.)

SAVANNAH, April 15.

A gentleman arrived in this city yesterday, who left Amelia on the 10th instant, informs us, that the Governor of Augustine was determined not to surrender the place till he was compelled by superior force, and that the taking it should cost the patriots and their adherents dear—the force in the place was not known—the Patriots force was from 400 to 450.

Our informant left Amelia in company with the following vessels—the brig Betsey, of Bermuda, who struck on the Bar, and is supposed will be lost—Ships Amazon, Turner; United States, Gurdon; Good Friends, Thompson, with dry goods, to the amount of upwards of 1,000,000 dollars, all bound to Philadelphia—eight other ships bound to Europe, and two gun-boats, to St. Augustine.

BOSTON, April 17.

More of the French War.

In the Regulator, which arrived yesterday, came passenger capt. Hincks, late of the Ruthy taken by the French in the Mediterranean, retaken by the English, and sold by capt. Hincks at Gibraltar. Capt. H. was a passenger in the brig Betsey, Brimblecome, from Gibraltar for Boston, which went into the Capes of the Delaware on the 9th inst. for water, 62 days out.

The Betsey was boarded March 23, lat. 30 lon. 69, from the two French frigates, from Nantz, which put on board the mate and four men belonging to the brig ADVENTURE, CURTIS, of Boston, from the West-Indies, with a cargo of 90 puncheons of rum and 7 lbs. molasses—and three men belonging to a PORTSMOUTH BRIG, captain SAUNDERS, also from the West-Indies bound home—both of which they had SCUTTLED. Captains Curtis and Saunders were detained on board the frigates. An English merchant, a prisoner, was put on board the Betsey. He understood the frigates had destroyed about FOURTEEN AMERICAN VESSELS.

One of the frigates had about 70 prisoners, who had been near taking her.